



Centennial Way Groundbreaking Ceremony

Tuesday, May 17, 2011
Remarks by Gov. Jan Brewer

Thank you, and good morning, everyone!

We're just 272 days away from the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to celebrate Arizona's 100th Statehood Day!

And, the Arizona Centennial Commission -- through its 501 c 3 non-profit foundation -- has been VERY busy establishing -- and launching -- a series of Signature Projects and Events.

I'm delighted to be with you today to celebrate one of these Signature Projects -- the future site of Centennial Way -- along Washington Street!

I also want to thank ...

-- Phoenix Mayor Phil Gordon;

-- The Honorable Charles Jones, my Co-Chair of the Arizona Centennial Commission;

-- Karen Churchard, Executive Director of the Arizona Centennial Commission and its Foundation;

-- And, Wylie Bearup, Street Transportation Director at the city of Phoenix.

Thank you ALL for being here -- to help mark this special day.

As one of the Signature Projects for our state's 100th statehood anniversary, Centennial Way is more than just a street enhancement project ... this is a legacy that Arizonans will be proud of.

When completed, Centennial Way will serve as a destination point where people can visit and learn about the great state of Arizona.

Among the major features this project will include, are:

- Displays featuring Arizona's 15 counties;
- A "Tribal walk" reflecting Arizona's 22 Native American tribes;
- And, eight major shade systems -- each to focus on a theme -- such as our rich canyons and beautiful landscapes -- along with historical and current information.

We're making every effort to ensure that ACCURATE historical -- cultural -- and regional elements are incorporated into Centennial Way.

For example, the project team consulted with the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona to design the "Tribal walk" -- and designers worked with representatives of the County Supervisors Association of Arizona to create thematic structures, one for each county.

Centennial Way will be a noteworthy thoroughfare leading to our state's Capitol from downtown phoenix.

It will incorporate elements of our state's rich culture and vibrant diversity from every corner of our amazing state.

As Governor and Co-Chair of the Arizona Centennial Commission, I thank the Arizona Department of Transportation -- the City of Phoenix -- and the Arizona Centennial Commission -- for working together to make Centennial Way a reality and a Signature Project of the Arizona Centennial.

The result will be a well-deserved sense of PLACE for our government -- especially fitting as we approach Arizona's 100 years of statehood.

So, again, thank you all for being here to help mark the birth of Centennial Way.

Thank you.